

**George Washington to Thomas Mifflin, March 19, 1777,
The Writings of George Washington from the Original
Manuscript Sources, 1745-1799. John C. Fitzpatrick,
Editor.**

To MAJOR GENERAL THOMAS MIFFLIN

Head Quarters, Morris Town, March 19, 1777.

Dear Sir: I was a few days ago favoured with yours of the 9th. instt., from Reading, and am glad to find, that the preparations in your department are so forward.

I wrote to you on the 13th, and informed you of what alterations I thought necessary for the future Regulation of the Office of Qr Mr. General, and desired you to proceed with all expedition in the execution of it.

I have a Letter of the 9th, from Mr. Snickers; he had not then recd. your orders for the purchase of Teams, at which he was very uneasy, as the price of Horses was rising daily. I have likewise heard from Mr. Thomas Rutherford, to whom I made the offer of Waggon Master General, but his ill health renders him unfit to fill so active a Department. As I have been unfortunate enough to be disappointed in the only three persons, who came within my Knowledge, as proper to manage so important a Station as Waggon Master General, I must leave the matter to you, and hope you will meet with better Success. You well know the necessary qualifications for this Officer, and how much the ease of your own department depends upon him, that I need give you no directions for your Choice.

I have had so many complaints of irregularity and ill conduct in the Deputy Commissaries, which I have in vain endeavoured to remedy, that I some time ago directed Colo. Trumbull

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to come down himself and regulate his own Department. I expect him daily, when I hope he will make strict inquiry into the Conduct of all of them, Captn. Wade¹ may be a man of warm temper, but he has had a sad disaffected Set to deal with. Whenever the Settlement of your Accounts will permit you to come to head Quarters, I shall be very glad to see you, as the Season approaches fast, when the presence of the heads of every Department will be highly necessary. I am etc.

P. S. Yours of the 17th. is just come to hand after sealing, which I broke to add this postscript. Colo. Biddle is gone to Philadelphia.²

¹apt. Francis(?) Wade.

²he draft is in the writing of Zench Zilghman.